

Gilliam County Riparian Buffers

**Annual Report
2003 - 2004**



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**Gilliam County Riparian Buffers
Intergovernmental Contract No. 9483
Project No. 2002-035-00
Annual Report**

Number of Contacts Made in Contract Year: May 1, 2003 – April 30, 2004

During the contract year beginning May 1, 2003 and ending April 30, 2004 the technician has contacted 19 new landowners regarding interest in the CREP or Continuous CRP contracts. All 19 contacts requested a second meeting. Fifteen of the 19 were visited on-site to discuss the possibilities of enrolling in an USDA riparian program.

Number of Contracts Negotiated in Contract Year:

The number of contracts negotiated and signed in the contract year totaled 20. The information regarding these contracts follows, listed by stream. Miles are calculated on actual stream miles. If project is both sides of the stream, an asterisk will be placed next to the mileage figure.

Project 1 - East Fork of 30-Mile Creek

Total Stream Miles: 2.1 miles*

Acreage: 27.9 acres

Estimated Volume of Water Restored: N/A

Project 2 – Rock Creek

Total Stream Miles: N/A Shallow Water Area for Wildlife w/20 ft. buffer around it

Acreage: 1.5 acres

Estimated Volume of Water Restored: N/A

Project 3 - Hay Creek

Total Stream Miles: 2.58 miles*

Acreage: 70.8 acres

Estimated Volume of Water Restored: N/A

Project 4 – 30-Mile Watershed

Total Stream Miles: .64 miles*

Acreage: 18.6 acres

Estimated Volume of Water Restored: N/A

Project 5 – 30-Mile Watershed

Total Stream Miles: .62 miles

Acreage: 13.5 acres

Estimated Volume of Water Restored: N/A

Project 6 – Six Mile Canyon

Total Stream Miles: 1.23 miles*

Acreage: 10.4 acres

Estimated Volume of Water Restored: N/A

Project 7 – Lonerock Creek

Total Stream Miles: 2.9 miles*

Acreage: 115.9 acres

Estimated Volume of Water Restored: N/A

Project 8 – North Fork Butte Creek

Total Stream Miles: 1.78 miles*

Acreage: 45.4 acres

Estimated Volume of Water Restored: N/A

Project 9 – Lost Valley Creek

Total Stream Miles: 1.4 miles*

Acreage: 26.7 acres

Estimated Volume of Water Restored: N/A

Project 10 – North Fork Butte Creek

Total Stream Miles: 2.0 miles*

Acreage: 26.9 acres

Estimated Volume of Water Restored: N/A

Project 11 – Meldrum Canyon

Total Stream Miles: 2.37 miles*

Acreage: 69.0 acres

Estimated Volume of Water Restored: N/A

Project 12 – Juniper Canyon

Total Stream Miles: 2.26 miles*

Acreage: 65.9 acres

Estimated Volume of Water Restored: N/A

Project 13 – Tributary to Ferry Canyon

Total Stream Miles: 1.48 miles*

Acreage: 43.3 acres

Estimated Volume of Water Restored: N/A

Project 14 – Johnson Hollow

Total Stream Miles: 1.38 miles*

Acreage: 40.1 acres

Estimated Volume of Water Restored: N/A

Project 15 – Ferry Canyon

Total Stream Miles: .5 miles*

Acreage: 14.5 acres

Estimated Volume of Water Restored: N/A

Project 16 – Ferry Canyon and Tributaries

Total Stream Miles: 1.82 miles*

Acreage: 53.1 acres

Estimated Volume of Water Restored: N/A

Project 17 – Lamberson Canyon and Tributaries

Total Stream Miles: .28 miles*

Acreage: 8.2 acres

Estimated Volume of Water Restored: N/A

Project 18 – Ferry and Lamberson Tributaries

Total Stream Miles: 1.31 miles*

Acreage: 38.2 acres

Estimated Volume of Water Restored: N/A

Project 19 – Hay Creek Tributary

Total Stream Miles: 1.63 miles*

Acreage: 47.5 acres

Estimated Volume of Water Restored: N/A

Project 20 – Greasewood Canyon

Total Stream Miles: 1.31 miles*

Acreage: 38.2 acres

Estimated Volume of Water Restored: N/A

Total Number of Contracts Signed in Contract Year

Total Contracts: 20

Total Stream Miles: 29.59 miles, counting both sides of the stream 59.18 miles

Total Acreage: 763.72 acres

List of Endangered Species by Project

Project 1- Species listed include: Steelhead-Mid Columbia River Summer Run, Hepatic Monkey Flower, and Laurence's Milk Vetch. Project will have a long-term positive effect on Steelhead and No Effect on the plant species.

Project 2- Only species listed is Steelhead-Mid Columbia River Summer Run. Project will have a long-term positive effect on this species.

Project 3- No Endangered Species present.

Project 4- Only species listed is Steelhead-Mid Columbia River Summer Run. Project will have a long-term positive effect on this species.

Project 5- Only species listed is Steelhead-Mid Columbia River Summer Run. Project will have a long-term positive effect on this species.

Project 6- Species listed include: Steelhead-Mid Columbia River Summer Run, Hepatic Monkey Flower, and Laurence's Milk Vetch. Project will have a long-term positive effect on Steelhead and No Effect on the plant species.

Project 7- Species listed include: Steelhead-Mid Columbia River Summer Run, Hepatic Monkey Flower, and Laurence's Milk Vetch. Project will have a long-term positive effect on Steelhead and No Effect on the plant species.

Project 8- No Endangered Species present.

Project 9- Species listed include: Steelhead-Mid Columbia River Summer Run, California Wolverine, and Laurence's Milk Vetch. Project will have a long-term positive effect on Steelhead and No effect on the other species.

Project 10- Only species listed is Steelhead-Mid Columbia River Summer Run. Project will have a long-term positive effect on this species.

Project 11- Only species listed is Big Horn Sheep. Project will have no effect on this species.

Project 12- No Endangered Species present.

Project 13- No Endangered Species present.

Project 14- No Endangered Species present.

Project 15- No Endangered Species present.

Project 16- No Endangered Species present.

Project 17- No Endangered Species present.

Project 18- No Endangered Species present.

Project 19- No Endangered Species present.

Project 20- Species listed include: Steelhead-Mid Columbia River Summer Run and Scappoose Catchfly. Project will have a long-term positive effect on Steelhead and No effect on the other species.

Problems Encountered During Contract Year

Interest appears to be at an all-time high for riparian conservation programs in Gilliam County. With the recently added Herbaceous Buffer and the already established CREP program interest is booming. However, more and more people are turning towards the herbaceous buffer because of expense. The riparian forest buffer is becoming too expensive. Even with the excellent cost share and incentives landowners are having trouble with Farm Service Agency's payment limitation. Because of this payment limitation landowners are not receiving their full rental and incentive payments, usually in year one. This has cooled the installation of riparian forest buffers and peaked interest in the CP-29 (Herbaceous Buffer for Wildlife). Either way, riparian lands are being enhanced and water quality is being improved.

Outlook for Contract Year 3

Year three should be very similar to the accomplishments of year 2. There has already been several projects proposed that may or may not be approved during year 3. I am currently working on three projects that are all over 2.5 miles long on each side and total anywhere from 60 to 250 acres in size. Along with these three projects there at least seven small projects being proposed. Four of those projects are riparian forest buffers and the remaining are herbaceous buffers.

Summary of Accomplishments

Total number of new landowners contacted: 19
Total number of interested landowners with pending plans: 10
Contracts Negotiated in Contract Year: 20
Acreage Enrolled in Contract Year: 763.72 acres
Stream Miles enrolled in Contract Year: 29.59 miles
Estimated Volume of Water Restored in Contract Year: .0 cfs
Completed NRCS Planning Course
Purchased needed field and office equipment/supplies
Attended monthly SWCD meetings
Provided Technical Assistance to 13 landowners without a program contract
Provided Technical Assistance for other conservation programs administered in the NRCS office such as: CRP, GRP and EQIP